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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1907.

Civil Service Annulments.

The superannuation committee of the
National Civil Service Reform League re-
ports, in its annual report, the opposi-
tion, formerly expressed against any plan for
the retirement of government employees on
annuities the expense of which does not
fall wholly upon the employees themselves.
The committee repeats its preference for
the Australian system of compelling gov-
ernment employees to purchase annuities
as one of the conditions of entering the
service. Sundry minor objections were
raised to the Keep Commission plan of
retirement, the principal of which is that
the return to the employee, on his separa-
tion from the service, of all sums paid
by him to procure an annuity would be
operated as a premium on resignation.

The alternative suggested by the Civil
Service League committee, however, makes
no provision for the retirement of super-
annuated employees now in the govern-
ment service. According to the Keep Com-
mission plan, these would be provided
with annuities largely at government ex-
pense, while those hereafter entering the
service would pay for their own annuities,
so that ultimately, or about fifty years
hence, the whole cost of the annuities
plan, aside from the expense of adminis-
tration and interest on payments, would
be borne by the beneficiaries. The
Keep Commission figured the annual cost
of annuities for a long series of years,
beginning with \$725,119 for the first year,
and gradually increasing to \$1,746,561 in
thirty years, thereafter declining to the
point of total disappearance. Though the
annual appropriation would not in any
one year exceed the larger sum above
mentioned, the total for the whole period
required to place the scheme on a self-
supporting basis amounts to the rather
astounding sum of \$50,000,000 or \$50,000,000.

It has been estimated that the govern-
ment loses annually about \$1,200,000 through
the service of unfit and superannuated
employees, many of whom are borne on
the pay rolls for reasons of humanity.
To eliminate these employees by the annu-
ity method means the saving of this sum at
the expense of annuities. The whole an-
nuity question, therefore, so far as its
financial aspect is concerned, would seem
to be whether it is worth while to expend
\$1,000,000 or \$1,500,000 a year in annuities
to gain an increase in efficiency of ap-
proximately equivalent value, together
with the elimination for all time of the
serious problem of superannuation. We
judge this aspect of the case has not been
given sufficient consideration by the Civil
Service League committee. At all events,
the Keep Commission plan should not be
condemned on the ground of expense until
it has been shown that its value to the
government is not worth all that it may cost.

Prof. Drake thinks "all of our political
ills would be cured by making Mr. Roose-
velt king." This is, we fear, the pre-
scription of a quack.

As to "Making" a President.

Foreseeing the utter collapse of the Taft
boom, and mindful of the Republican
factions in the Empire State, the New
York Herald comes forward with this
conciliatory suggestion:

"President Roosevelt would not be ad-
vantageous from the point of view of the
candidate of Gov. Hughes. He could not make a better
move. If he is anxious to establish his reputation
as a statesman, he should not run for the
office of War in American political life.
The role of War in American political life
he could take in this direction, would be to put
forward Gov. Hughes as the candidate of his personal
choice. Victory for the Republican party would
be gained, and all the credit for it would go to
Mr. Roosevelt."

We should be very much disappointed
in Gov. Hughes if he permitted himself
to become the "personal candidate" of
any party leader, no matter how eminent
or powerful. What has chiefly contrib-
uted to his good fame is his independence
of all bosses, of all external control. He
is owned neither by the politicians nor
by private interests. He has not sought
advice or support from Washington or
Oyster Bay. He is firmly planted on his
own bottom, and if the people of the
United States should happen to turn
toward him in their search for a Presi-
dential candidate, he would win favor as
a popular, not as a personal choice.

And if the American people do want
another New York man for President,
why should they petition Mr. Roosevelt
to nominate and elect him? We are
sure Gov. Hughes is not waiting for
Presidential endorsement. For if he should
receive and accept it, he would surrender
at once his unique independence, his re-
markable hold on the imaginations of men
who love unshackled character. To at-
tempt to make Gov. Hughes Presidential
might win credit for Mr. Roosevelt, but
the governor's prestige would scarcely be
enhanced by a label reading "personal
choice."

There is a way to promote the Presi-
dential prospects of Gov. Hughes without
submitting him to the humiliation of sur-
rendering to a political dictator. If the
Roosevelt crowd would get out of the
road, Hughes' path would be clear. Why
not a fair field and no favor for all Presi-
dential aspirants?

Mr. George Fred Williams says the re-
sult in Massachusetts was a "triumph
for pure Democracy." If "pure Demo-

cracy" is satisfied with that sort of tri-
umph, we are not anticipating any particu-
larly large howl from the Republicans.

Promotion for Diplomats.

Recent diplomatic appointments deserve
approbation for recognition of the prin-
ciple of promotion, as well as for non-
recognition of great wealth as an essen-
tial qualification for an ambassadorial
post in a capital of the first rank. David
Jayne Hill, who succeeds Charlesmen
Tower at Berlin, held high place in the
State Department, whence he entered the
diplomatic service, and is deeply versed
in the theory and practice of diplomacy.
He will be an ornament to the service,
though he may not dazzle by the splendor
of his social diversions.

To round out the State Department's
excellent policy of placing trained and
well-qualified men in the diplomatic ser-
vice and keeping them there, Congress
should provide adequate salaries and
modest domestic establishments, with a
reasonable allowance for necessary enter-
tainment. Then there will be less diffi-
culty recruiting our diplomatic service
from men of talent, instead of men whose
primary qualification is the possession of
wealth.

Instead of organizing to prevent
Hughes' capture of the Republican Presi-
dential nomination, it appears more likely
that organization to prevent the nomi-
nation capturing Hughes will be neces-
sary.

In Old Kentucky.

"We will sing one song of our old Kentucky home,
"Then, our old Kentucky home, good-by."

If we change "home" to "jobs" and
make the tune a little more dolorous and
funereal, we have the song—or shall we
say the dirge?—which the Democrats of
the Blue Grass country have sung since
last week's election. The only one who
failed to join in the chant was Mar-
se Henry Watterson. He, instead, con-
ducted a post mortem examination of the State's
Democracy and announced a horoscope
of the slayer thereof, one John Crepps
Wickliffe Beckham, who is alleged to
have been aided and abetted by James
Hargis et al. Marse Henry's productions
have been published in the news col-
umns of this paper, and the thunders of
"You Tents, O Israel!" still reverber-
ates through the land. But hear some of
his country contemporaries.

"The State," observes the Mayfield Mes-
senger, calmly and dispassionately, "has
gone Republican from Catlettsburg to
Hickman, and from H— to breakfast."
The Calloway Times arrives at prac-
tically the same conclusion as to the Com-
monwealth's destination. Its headlines
read thus:

"KENTUCKY
"GONE TO THE DEVIL AND THE REPUB-
LICANS."

A perfectly logical reason for the result
is given by the Kentucky New Era:

"We have met the enemy and we are theirs!
"Perhaps the late J. Caesar (sic) expressed it a
little differently, but let 'er go at that."

"It is not our fault; but somebody—mind you, we
are naming no names—but somebody or other voted
for Wilson, and you see his baggage!"
As if to prove Governor-to-be Willson's
charge that the State is some twenty or
fourty years behind the times, it seems
that the Democratic newspapers of the
State had on hand large and lustily crow-
ing roosters wherewith to adorn their
first pages the morning after election.

Most of these, it is needless to say, never
crowed in print, but the Meade County
Messenger reduced the size of its bird
and hid it behind its throat in these head-
lines:

"MEADE 60.
"DEMOCRATS GIVE THE STATE TICKET
USUAL MAJORITY."
"GROW, YOU LITTLE RASCAL!"

(The picture of a very small rooster
was inserted here.)

"THANK THE LORD, WE SAVED OLD
MEADE BY 60."

Other papers printed their roosters up-
side down, having reserved space for
them which had to be filled; and one
resourceful editor, according to the Cour-
ier-Journal, cut off the head of his fowl.
The Somerset Journal was so sure of
Democratic victory that it wrote its story
and made up its forms in advance. When
the smoke cleared away and the neces-
sity of making some changes was ap-
parent, the office force combined in re-
writing the story. There was not suf-
ficient time to fill the space originally al-
lotted to a portrait of "Governor" Hager,
however, so the picture was printed any-
way, with the underline, "Peerless in De-
feat."

We sympathize with our Democratic
friends in the Blue Grass, but beg to as-
sure them that, since they have retained
their sense of humor, all is not lost, by
any means.

Mr. Henry M. Whitney says he "can-
not understand" how it happened. And yet
it is an old story—fifty-seven varieties
of Democrats, all pulling in different direc-
tions.

Blessed Be the Children.

Says the Birmingham (Ala.) News:
"A Pittsburgh man is erecting an apartment
house to be leased only to tenants who have children.
That man ought to be very popular around the
White House."

Certainly, he ought to be very popular
around the White House, and around
every other house. He is a gentleman,
a scholar, and an American citizen worth
while! Such men are the salt of the
earth; they are, generally, rather stout,
ruddy complexioned, and jolly—perhaps
baldheaded. If not fathers themselves,
each is persona gratissima with every
child in his neighborhood, and every one
entertains an abiding faith in the use-
fulness and joy attaching to embryonic
youth.

The men who bar children from apart-
ment houses are not square dealers.
They may be good citizens, according
to their lights, and well intentioned;
but they are enemies of the republic, for
all of that. If there were no children
in the first place, there would be no use
for apartment houses in the second.
And if there were no children, there
would be no use working and striving
and manipulating to make the world go
round. If there were no children, there
would be any use in anything!

Therefore, why should these hopefuls,
upon whom, after all, rests the destinies
of the nation, be blacklisted? If they
sneer at the wall, waistcoat them so it
won't matter, let them! If old
maids, old bachelors, or married couples
with no children object to their laughter
and romping, let the complainants go to
a hotel; they are not as important as
the children, not by any manner of means!

We rejoice with this Pittsburgh man,
and congratulate him upon his uncon-
quarable good sense. He has the right and
equitable idea. He will not rent his
apartments to any one without children.
Instead of being a bar to occupancy,
in his sight, the children are the one
only "open sesame." To paraphrase an
erstwhile popular song, "If yer ain't got
no children, yer needn't come 'round."
All of which makes us happy and opti-
mistic. A house without the ringing

laughter of carefree children is a lone-
some house, indeed; and a wall with the
prints of tiny fingers thereon is a great
deal more beautiful than one that never
has the opportunity to acquire them.

A contemporary notes that Mayor Tom
Johnson is unable "to converse in Latin
and Greek." Perhaps; but he certainly
knows how to sing the English that
pleases the voters.

The story about a wild bear and a mad
bull indulging in a death struggle in the
Adirondacks is plainly an effort upon the
part of some heretofore obscure nature
fakery to start something.

The mere fact that no one seems able
to think up a good excuse for reviving
the rank of vice admiral will not be ac-
cepted by the agitators as sufficient ex-
cuse for not doing it, however.

We are informed that there will be no
lumber famine until 1927, which ought, at
least, to insure a stable breakfast-mar-
ket for the next twenty years.

If to Mr. Tim Woodruff has been as-
signed the task of securing Gov. Hughes'
scalp when the general is looking "sober,"
the country will watch the performance
with no small degree of amused interest.

"Japan has seized another island in the
Pacific," says the New York Herald.
Why should Japan invariably "seize"
those islands? Nobody is at all apt to
interfere.

After years of research, some one has
discovered that crickets were invented
over 30 years ago! Having settled this
momentous question, he should now get
busy and find out what the women gave
their husbands for Christmas presents
prior to that time.

"This is a going town," says the Spar-
tanburg Herald. We reserve decision,
however, until we learn whether it is go-
ing toward Charleston or Columbia.

"Congressman Burton has found that he
cannot march over the prostrate body of
Tom Johnson to the Senate chamber,"
says the Birmingham Age-Herald. It is
doubtful, in any event, that he would
have been adapted to get over without a
step-ladder.

Chattanooga is bragging mightily just
now about its "superb natural location,"
when every one knows it is merely the
dampness of its location that attracts the
favorable notice of its neighbors in near-
by States at this time.

"Rev. Hudson Stuck in Texas," says a
headline in the Houston Post. Evidently
the Rev. Hudson was given the usual
Texas welcome to strangers.

"Emperor William isn't nearly so tal-
kative as he once was," says a contem-
porary. His majesty is a great talker,
two times—and has been on the emperor
job quite a while; naturally, he has
learned both wisdom and discretion.

Mr. Grover Cleveland is still able to
enjoy a rabbit hunt, it appears. This
and the fact that he recently survived
a consultation of six physicians indi-
cates that our only living ex-President
is good for many days yet.

If whiskies are to be labeled for ex-
actly what they are and who made them,
why not Presidential booms?

At the John Temple Graves farewell
banquet in Atlanta Saturday night,
nothing stronger than coffee was served.
When the colonel gets to New York he
will appear at the front of the song,
"Home Ain't Nothing Like This."

For fear some one may still imagine
the Taft boom alive and kicking, Sena-
tor Platt has issued a statement that
the Republican candidates got the most votes.

According to the New York American,
an octopus at Tooridin "turned a ten-
dacle around a man's leg and almost pulled
it off." Following a natural instinct,
doubtless.

Out in Washington State the law taxes
a man \$1 to change his name, but issues
a license to change his name to change
hers for 50 cents; and still some women
are forever harping on the law's dis-
crimination in favor of men.

"A scientist analyzed the body of a
woman weighing 154 pounds, and found
only three ounces of sugar," says the
Charleston (W. Va.) Mail. Evidently an
old maid.

An actress lost \$150 worth of jewels
in Atlanta Saturday and got about nine
columns of newspaper advertising as a
result; and yet one would have thought
Atlanta more up-to-date than that.

Ex-Gov. Taylor, of Kentucky, may not
feel justified in testifying at the present
Caleb Powers trial, but he may be pro-
duced at the next one, doubtless.

Graft in Foreign Lands.

From the Boston Transcript.
We hear so much about "graft" in
these United States, it is so conspicuously
headlined, and made in so many insinua-
tions that never get into print, that there
is satisfaction in learning that there are
public men of other countries who are in
trouble for practices that meet our defini-
tion of the term. In Italy the trial of
Nunzio Nasi, former minister of public
instruction, on the charge of defrauding
the public treasury to raise a campaign
fund, is the sensation of the hour. Gurko,
the Russian vice minister of the interior,
has been compelled to disgorge \$250,000 for
malfeasance in connection with the famine
relief fund, and undoubtedly "there are
others." Of course, it is not logical that
we should find cause for satisfaction in
proof that other countries have predatory
politicians, but it is very human just the
same.

Where Do They Get It?

From the Philadelphia Record.
Every once in a while some of our
gangsters make ostentatious show of their
opulence by the purchase or sale of lands
or stocks and bonds; sometimes they die
and surprise their friends and fellow-
citizens by posthumous disclosure of un-
suspected wealth. Where do they get it?

This reminds us of a story they tell of
Secretary Straus, who was one day driv-
ing his motor on the New York Speedway
when he was passed by a notorious pro-
moter. "That fellow," said the Secre-
tary, naming him, "came to New York in
the '70s with only a dollar in his pocket."
He paused, then added reflectively:
"However, there were other pockets."

Moral of Burton's Defeat.

From the Charlotte (N. C.) Observer.
The effort to make money by the ben-
eficiary of one's own strength is always
a doubtful and may be a dangerous ex-
periment. It may bring humiliation and
an abatement of one's influence besides.

Slow Sellers.

From the Baltimore Sun.
A Massachusetts man proposes that
Uncle Sam sell the Philippines at auction.
He would cry "Going, going" a long time
before he could ever cry "Gone!"

Self-curing Evil.

From the Florida Times-Union.
It is another case of the hair of the
dog curing its bite when the tariff-caused
panic is cured by the tariff accumulated
surplus.

A LITTLE NONSENSE.

THE DIFFERENCE.

In days of old
When knights were bold,
Their weapons seldom rusted;
When they got through
A small set-to,
Two suits of mail were busted.

In days of new
A small set-to
Brings little harm to fighters;
When up they wind
We merely find
A pair of wrecked typewriters.

So They Air It.

"Some people seem to think that knowl-
edge is a sort of garment."
"What do you mean?"
"Seem to think that unless they air it
frequently it will get moth-eaten."

Proof Positive.

"Do you really like me, Charley?"
"Sure. Don't I come to see you regu-
larly?"
"But men often call on a girl for whom
they care little or nothing."
"Not with Christmas looming up."

A Sad Jest.

"Ah," said the poor humorist, "I see
you have cut out one of my jokes."
"Ha, ha!"
"Found it funny, did you?"
"Excuse me for laughing, old man.
What I cut out was an 'ad' on the other
side of the page."

The Gas Leak.

He was no mollycoddle weak;
He lit a match to find the leak.
That duty o'er,
He left this shore
And started skyward in a streak.

Sensible Maid.

"Never marry a man to reform him,
dear."
"I won't, auntie. And I'll promise you
another thing."
"What is that, my child?"
"I'll never reform a man for some
other girl to marry."

Pioneer Jim.

When the frost is on the possum and
the corn is in the shock, then the poet
forth doth blossom, for of topics he's a
stock. In a minute and a quarter he can
grind you out a lay, and to Riley he
could ougter ever grateful be, I say!

Not Quite All.

"Will all of your boys be home for
Thanksgiving?"
"Well, all of Fred and Tom, and most
of Johnny. Johnny's on the football team
this year."

ADRIFF WITH THE TIMES.

From the Birmingham Age-Herald.

A SONG OF GRATUITIES.

Tip, tip, tip,
The porter, the maid and the "hop."
And I've often wondered as I went along
If this tipping would ever stop.

Tip, tip, tip,
No matter how little they do,
The whole blooming bunch is anxious to
see
How much they can get out of you.

Tip, tip, tip,
All over this prosperous land
And other lands, too—wherever you go,
There's the palm of an outstretched
hand!

The Age of Single Diets.
"What are you living on?"
"I'm living on eggs."
"What are you living on?"
"I'm living on peanuts."
"And what are you living on?"
"I'm living on hope!"

Making a Colleague.
"Have all our buildings been paid for
by Mr. Rockefeller?"
"Yes."
"Have we a football team?"
"Yes."
"And a coach?"
"Yes."
"And a college yell?"
"Yes."
"All right. Now we'll hire a few pro-
fessors."

Fashion Note.
The styles in autos swiftly change,
We venture to opine.
The car of 1907 won't be
The car of 1909.

Great Scheme.
"I'll be a rich man before long."
"You don't tell me!"
"Yes, I will operate a pipe line to Geo-
rgia after January 1!"

Style.
The autumn girl
Wears hats so large,
There's some excuse
For what they charge
Who make the things,
Altho, I've got,
I'm glad the bills
Don't come to me!

Must Know the People.
From the Boston Globe.
Foreign travel, when our nation was in
its infancy, was a highly valuable form
of education for our chiefs of state. It
has its uses in making a full man. As
our country has grown, however, as its
boundaries have widened and its interests
multiplied, it is far more important that
a President should have traveled at home
than abroad. A President can get along
without having had any direct contact
with the people of foreign nations, but
he must know the whole American peo-
ple. In more than one instance this com-
plete knowledge has been lacking.

Function of Elasticity.
From the New York Times.
Mr. Fowler's contention is no more
than that traders should be allowed to
buy and sell freely, making profit or
loss according to their judgment. Elastic
currency will not avert all crises, but
it will ease all crises not due to in-
trinsic causes, and it will not cause crises
by refusing freedom of action to traders,
who would be solvent if the law al-
lowed the ordinary facilities of com-
merce.

Prolific in Candidates.
From the Des Moines Capital.
Does New York expect to present
Hughes, Root, and Cortelyou as Presi-
dential candidates? It is so characteris-
tic of the Empire commonwealth to imagine
that she is the whole map!

No Terror for Cleveland.
From the Duluth Herald.
Third term talk is obsolete in Cleve-
land, where Tom Johnson has been elect-
ed for his fourth term and is talking
of his fifth.

THE BORE OF THE MOMENT.
The oracle now seeks the crowd
And thinks each person he entrances
When he doth talk, in accents loud,
Of Finance.

He knows where a King Wall street crosses
Through moonlight and rain, madly hurries,
He knows the market's ups and downs,
And hurries.

For hours he talks and never swears,
A wordy flood in vain to lead it
Trade balances, and bank reserves,
And credits.

All other troubles that I see
Above case all crises not due to
Finance!
And hurries.

Would Be Glad to Get It.
From the Chicago Record-Herald.
This is really the wrong time for the
hells of George Washington to put in an
appearance. At the most they would
have to be contented with a clearing-
house certificate.

MEN AND THINGS.

Puguet Sound Song Birds.

Dr. Charles M. McCutcheon, of Tacoma,
is proving a public benefactor in his ef-
forts to people the woods bordering on
Puguet Sound with song birds. Skylarks
brought from Liverpool last fall by Dr.
McCutcheon and freed near Tacoma have
been heard from in many places. They
are sweet singers, hardly enough to thrive
in a new climate, and Dr. McCutcheon is
so much encouraged by the success of his
first effort that he has ordered another
shipment of birds from England. There
is no doubt but that the woods of West-
ern Washington, particularly along Pu-
get Sound, can be made the home of
many songsters of noble quality and rare
plumage, and certainly they add much
to the beauty and general attractiveness
of the woods. Dr. McCutcheon says
truthfully "our forests are desolations of
silence and our fields lack the life and
charm of birds that make other localities
charming." The work he is doing will
alter the situation, and he should be en-
couraged and aided in his worthy efforts.
The beauty of the woods will be greatly
enhanced by the color, songs, and activity
of birds. Dr. McCutcheon has demon-
strated the possibility of peopling the
forests of the Puget Sound country with
pretty singers, and Western Washington
should show its appreciation of his ef-
forts by aiding the movement in every
way possible.

Railways in Switzerland.

An English journal directs attention to
the unparalleled activity which prevails
at the present time in the projection of
plans for railway tunnels in Switzerland
and adjoining countries. Seven or eight
schemes are on foot, including those for
the construction of a tunnel parallel to
the Simplon, a similar work beneath the
Jura, another through Mont Blanc, and a
tunnel at a lower level in place
of the existing Hauser tunnel. The
second Simplon tunnel will be slightly
wider than the first. It is probable that
the total cost will be not less than seven
and a half millions of dollars. The pro-
posed tunnel under Mont Blanc is to be
rather more than eleven miles long,
and its highest point will be nearly 6,500
feet above sea level. This scheme has
been worked out by a technical commis-
sion of the Turin municipality, and, if
constructed, the tunnel will give direct
railway communication between Aosta
and Chamouni.

Manganese Mines.

Vice Consul Alexander Battiste, of Port
au Prince, reports that a concession was
obtained from the Haitian government by
a business man in his district to exploit
a mine of manganese discovered about
three years ago in Coteaux, Province of
Cayes. The vice consul adds:

"A merchant interested in the enterprise
who recently returned from a visit to the
mining district states that he found the
ore more or less in some places in a pure
state and in others mixed with manganese
rock. The deposits of manganese ore are
very rich, and can be found in sufficient
quantities to